

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 HEW-08 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

AID-20 RSR-01 /098 W

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P R 202100Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2049

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3153

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NU, PINT

SUBJECT: MEDICAL STRIKE ACQUIRES NEW MOMENTUM

REF: MANAGUA 3132

1. ON JULY 18, AUXILIARY WORKERS (NON-PROFESSIONAL STAFF) FROM NICARAGUA'S SIX PRINCIPAL HOSPITALS PRESENTED SIXTEEN DEMANDS TO MRS HOPE SOMOZA, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF WELFARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (JNAPS), WHICH HAD TO BE MET WITHIN 24 HOURS OR THE WORKERS WOULD STRIKE. ON JULY 19, WORKERS AT MANAGUA'S ONLY FUNCTIONING GENERAL HOSPITAL, VELEZ PAIZ, WALKED OUT LEAVING PERSONNEL ONLY FOR EMERGENCY CASES AND MNIMUM CARE OF PATIENTS. THE STRIKING WORKERS AT VELEZ PAIZ JOIN APPROXIMATELY 50 INTERNS AND RESIDENTS OF THE HOSPITAL WHO WERE FIRED LAST WEEK FOR CONDUCTING AN ILLEGAL STRIKE. THEIR PETITION DEMANDS THAT THESE INTERNS AND RESIDENTS BE REINSTATED.

2. THE HOSPITAL WORKERS' DEMANDS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE PREVIOUSLY MADE BY THE INTERNS AND RESIDENTS. AMONG UNCLASSIFIED

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THEM ARE ELIMINATION OF

THE 8 PERCENT RECONSTRUCTION

TAX ON THEIR SALARIES AND A 60 PERCENT RAISE. THEY ALSO ASK FOR IMPROVED FOOD AND FACILITIES FOR THE PATIENTS. MANY OF THE OTHER BENEFITS DEMANDED WERE AGREED TO BY JNAPS TO SETTLE A SERIES OF NURSES AND AUXILIARY WORKERS STRIKES LAST YEAR BUT APPARENTLY WERE NEVER IMPLEMENTED.

3.

HOSPITAL WORKERS AT MASAYA HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN ON STRIKE SINCE TUESDAY, JULY 18, AND WORKERS IN LEON, JINOTEPE, RIVAS AND CHINANDEGA ARE EXPECTED TO JOIN THE STRIKE, IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY, UNLESS THE GON TAKES IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE.
SHELTON

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